REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 3-8, and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zak U.S. Patent No 6,452,991 B1 in view of Li et at U.S. Pub 2003/0215022 Al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

There are three basic criteria to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). First, there must be some suggestion or motivation in the cited references to modify or combine their teachings; second, there must be reasonable expectation of success; and third, the prior art references must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *See* M.P.E.P §2142. As to claim 1, the combination of cited references does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite correlating at least one sample of the sequence of samples with one or more samples of the sequence of samples to generate a plurality of correlation results; computing a correlation value from the plurality of correlation results; and comparing the correlation value with a threshold. The combination of cited references does not teach this limitation. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the combination of cited references.

Claims 15 and 19 have been amended in the manner of claim 1 and are patentably distinguishable from the combination of cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

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Applicant believes this application and the claims herein to be in a condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have further inquiry concerning these matters, please contact the below named attorney for Applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

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